

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in the present application. All of these claims stand rejected. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection based on the following remarks,

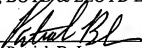
Claims 1-14 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-14 of U.S. Patent No. 6,710,363. Although the Applicant believes that the rejection is not valid, the rejection is nonetheless moot in light of the Terminal Disclaimer filed with this Response. Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 1-14 based on obviousness-type double patenting is believed to be overcome.

In light of the foregoing comments, the Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance and requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC

BY


Patrick B. Law

Reg. No. 41,549

P.O. Box 1135

Chicago, Illinois 60690-1135

Phone: (312) 781-6801

Dated: September 23, 2004